

Annex to Replication Material

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1. Introduction

This document provides some background information about the IPSR/RISP research article ‘*Mind the Gap! Organized Hypocrisy in EU Cooperation with Southern Neighbor Countries on International Protection*’. As to ensure the transparency and replicability of the analysis carried out by the authors it provides a general overview of how the research data have been gathered and managed, as well as the steps followed to produce the figures and tables presented in the article. While the research has been based on qualitative methods, which due to the incorporation of researchers’ subjective biases do not allow for an exact replication, these authors estimate that specifying their procedural and methodological choices would allow for replicating results as close as possible to the ones presented in the article. Hence, this Annex provides an accurate description of the content of the datasets, coding, and variables presented in the two replication material files (*A* and *B*), concerning the two main phases of the authors’ empirical analysis.

In **Replication Material A** file, it is possible to find the data underlying the *visual map* showed in *Figure 1*, while the **Replication Material B** file contains the dataset of the documents (DOC) on which the authors performed a frame analysis, which was used for *Table 1*. In this Annex the authors do not discuss *Table 2*, because it is itself an explanatory table not containing any specific data. All the empirical analysis has been conducted on the computer-assisted qualitative data analysis software [MAXODA 2022](#).

2. Replication Material A: FWK Dataset

In the file named ‘MindtheGap(2023)_ReplicationMaterial_A.xlsx’ the authors included a list of the documents analysed as to understand what, in the article, is defined the ‘talk’ of the European Union (EU). The selection of the ten ‘framework documents’ (FWK), which are in large part Communications from the European Commission, aimed to identify continuities in the EU talk on migration and asylum policy (MAP) and in what is defined, in the article, as the EU ‘humanitarian discourse’ on international protection.

2.1 General overview of Replication Material A file

The first sheet of the file, labelled ‘Dataset_FWK’, presents the list of selected documents, and includes four variables:

Variable	Description
Identifier	Label used to refer to each framework document
Document Title	Title of the concerned document, including reference to the publication the EU Official Journal (OJ), where applicable, and the number of each act
Year	Year of publication of the concerned document
Coded Segments	Number of segments (of various length) coded for each FWK document

In the second sheet, labelled ‘Code_System’ we present the list of codes used to distinguish the two main frames in the EU talk. In line with existing research, the authors adopted a keyword-based approach to coding, which was performed using the *Text Search & Autocoding*

tool within MAXQDA 2022. The keywords¹ were identified on the ground of existing research on migration framing in policy documents and media analysis. The output of such search was then autocoded adopting as an option the coding of the whole sentence in which the keyword was present as well as the previous and the following sentences. This choice allowed, in a second phase, to identify the intersection among coded segments and produce the *visual map* presented in the article.

Based on this first round of autocoding, the authors reviewed the coded documents so to exclude the occurrences in which the concerned keywords were present with a different meaning from the one intended. In this manual revision, the authors also rearranged the length of coded segments in case of multiple occurrences of keywords coding for a same code, as to correct the anomalies of autocoding. Likewise, the manual revision allowed for adjusting the results of autocoding in relation to paragraph breaks, so to avoid that coded segment included sentences from previous or following paragraphs not linked to the concerned code. Moreover, the authors manually excluded occurrences of the keywords in footnotes, since their inclusion could have been problematic.

Variable	Description
Code Label	Label used to refer to each code
Text Search & Autocode Options	List of keywords for <i>Text Search & Autocode</i> tool and autocoding options
Frequency	Frequency of each code in the whole sample of FWK documents

Finally, the third sheet, labelled ‘Code_Intersections’ presents the number of intersection between coded segments in the whole sample of FWK documents analysed. The data have been produced through the *Code Relations Browser* tool within MAXQDA 2022 and exported in an .xlsx file.

2.2. Replication of the Visual Map

As mentioned, the visual map presented in *Figure 1* has been produced through the *Code Map* tool within MAXQDA 2022 based on the data provided in the .xlsx file. While the position of the codes in the map resulting from the *Code Map* tool was automatically arranged as to reflect measures of similarity between codes, the visual map presented in *Figure 1* has been modified by the authors since such measures were not deemed relevant for the analysis at stake.

Each circle in the map represents a code. The larger the circles the more code assignments have been made with that code. Colours have been used to highlight whether a certain code referred to the humanitarian (light grey) or security-oriented (dark grey) frames. In addition, connecting lines between the codes have been added so to indicate which codes overlap or co-occur and the thickness of the lines represents the number of co-occurrences of two codes.

3. Replication Material B: DOC Dataset

In the file named ‘MindtheGap(2023)_ReplicationMaterial_B.xlsx’ the authors included a list of ‘policy documents’ (DOC) which constitute the bulk of frame analysis. The authors

¹For words that could be present in different forms, the *Text Search and Autocode* tool allowed for including asterisks (*) as to search for the different suffixes (e.g., a text search for ‘vulnerab*’ would give as result all the occurrences of both ‘vulnerable’ and ‘vulnerability’ in the texts).

included in the datasets all the main international agreements and declarations involving the EU and at least one of the selected Southern Neighbor Countries (SNCs), largely relying on [Longo and Fontana \(2022\)](#). The DOC Dataset includes 47 documents referring to the main policy tools adopted in the context of EU-SNCs cooperation on MAP related issues. For those documents, such as the Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreements or Action Plans, that had a wider scope, the analysis focused just on the sections or articles concerning MAP. For each document, the authors identified a series of relevant variables which were crucial to pave the way of the frame-based coding, conducted according the scheme presented in *Table 2* of the article.

The first sheet of the file, labelled ‘Var_Description’, presents a list of the variables used and their extended labels. The ‘Dataset_DOC’ sheet, instead, presents the full range of values of each variable for the concerned DOC documents.

3.1 DOC Dataset Variables

In the DOC Dataset, the authors included a series of variables that were used to structure the qualitative analysis of the documents, ranging from the years of adoption, or entry into force of the policy documents, to their main subjects. Throughout the document, the acronym ‘NA’ refers to ‘Non Applicable’ and it is used when the value of the concerned value differs from the range of options available.

Variable	Variable Label	Description
doc_id	Document identifier	Identifiers, ranging from DOC1 to DOC42. ²
pol_doc	Policy document on EU-SNCs cooperation	Titles of the selected policy documents on EU-SNCs cooperation
year	Year of adoption/entry into force	For most documents the variable refers to the date in which a political declaration or agreement was signed and, hence, adopted. In the case of binding international agreements, for which there is a specific formal procedure, the authors preferred to refer to the year of entry into force
type	Type of instrument	The authors distinguished three main values for this variable: Binding International Agreement; Soft International Arrangement; Multilateral Dialogue
legal_fw	Legal framework ³	As for the legal framework, the following categories might apply: Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement (Euro-Med AA); Mobility Partnership (MP); European Neighborhood Policy Action Plan/Strategic Priorities (ENP AP/SP); Regional Dialogue (Rabat Process); Regional Dialogue (Khartoum Process); Joint EU-Africa Strategy/Migration, Mobility and Employment (JAES/MME); Regional Protection Programme/Regional Development and Protection Programme (RPP/RDPP)
geo_proj	Geographical projection	This variable codes for the presence of one or more of the considered SNCs as participating in the agreements or actions that the policy documents refer to: Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan (or combinations of the five)

² In some cases, multiple documents (e.g., political declaration and action plans) were considered as referring to a same agreement, while in other circumstances, such as in the case of RDPP, in the absence of a specific document it was necessary to consult multiple sources, which were coded separately but considered and analyzed as part of a single policy tool. Multiple documents referring to a specific agreement or policy tool are thus listed in the form ‘DOC15.1’, ‘DOC15.2’, and so on.

³ In the case of the documents adopted at the Valletta Summit in 2015 (DOC19.1, DOC19.2), there was not a single legal framework, since it involved partner countries participating in overlapping regional dialogues as well as the JAES/MME. Hence, it has been registered as ‘NA’ in the data file.

Moreover, the dataset includes a series of variables (see below) concerning the specific purposes or subjects (*S*) of MAP-related cooperation mentioned in the documents. For the sake of parsimony, the authors identified six major areas of cooperation, which were deemed relevant for the present work. For each subject, the authors registered two possible values, either the presence (coded as ‘1’) or absence (coded as ‘2’) depending on whether the concerned subject was dealt with in the document.

Variable	Variable Label	Description
S1	Subject 1: International protection	Presence or absence of provisions concerning cooperation on international protection, reform of asylum legislation, or the conditions of refugees
S2	Subject 2: Visa facilitation	Presence or absence of provisions concerning the facilitation of visa for SNC nationals, including the improvement of legal pathways for migration to the EU
S3	Subject 3: Returns and readmissions	Presence or absence of provisions concerning cooperation on returns and readmissions of nationals and third-country nationals to SNCs
S4	Subject 4: Prevention of irregular migration	Presence or absence of provisions concerning cooperation on the prevention of illegal/irregular migration, including police cooperation, border control, identification of migrants and information exchange
S5	Subject 5: Fight against THB and organised crime	Presence or absence of provisions concerning cooperation on the fight against trafficking of human beings (THB), smuggling and organised crime linked to irregular migration
S6	Subject 6: Development cooperation	Presence or absence of provisions concerning socio-economic development in relation to MAP ⁴

⁴ In this regard, the authors did not included all the general references to development cooperation in the analysed policy documents, but just those references establishing a clear link between development and migration, such as mentions of cooperation on the development-related root causes of migratory movements or concerning the developmental impact of migration.